WASHINGTON.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 1864.

PRINCIPLES OF MILITARY DUTY.

The official report of the debate that was had in the Senate on Monday last, the 20th instant, on the bill regulating the performance of military duty, is so interesting for the facts it elicited and the principles involved in the discussion that we briefly advert to some of its salient points for the information of our readers.

The official report of the Congressional de bates is so voluminous, and the daily abstract of those debates is necessarily so imperfect and meagre, that we are sure we shall consult the best interest of all intelligent inquirers by briefly recapitulating the heads of the discussion on that

It appears, then, from the statements made by Mr. Wilson, the chairman of the Military Committeo in the Senate, and the organ of communication between the Senate and the War Department, that under the existing regulations for recruiting the army the latter is receiving about one hundred stated by Mr. Wilson in the following terms:

"Sir, I think it is wrong in the Senate of the United States, or in the Congress of the United States, to speak of brave men in the service of the country as 'mercen-aries' because they have taken of their State Governments, of their localities, and of the National Government, bounties offered them to go into the service of their country. In the first place they ought to have had a bounty. Al kinds of labor are now exceedingly high; the cost of liv-ing is high. These men who are fighting our battles have left families behind them as dear to them as our families are to us. They leave them at home and go and peril their lives for the country; perhaps come back maimed and wounded. The man who takes a bounty and uses the money as a man ought to do, to support, protect, and educate his family; that man, who bares his bosom to rebel steel, is just as much a patriot as the man who volunteered for a less sum. It looks to me, in the present and the first of the country, that we are averaged to nay now condition of the country, that we are expected to pay more for men, and ought to pay more, than we did in the early

It will be seen that these remarks proceed or the assumption that military service, like every other service performed under free Governments. is founded on contract. It is of the essence of "involuntary servitude" that service should be exacted by the party receiving it without the contract or assent of the party rendering it, and such servitude is forbidden by the laws of free States except in punishment of crime.

It is commonly held, however, as we intimated on Saturday last, that military service is an exception to this general law, and that that species of service may be consistently made involuntary whenever the State pleases to exact it of the subject. We have never been able to construct to our mind a satisfactory theory in support of this doctrine, if we start from the assumption that involuntary servitude is inconsistent with human rights in the figure of society. And we have never been able to perceive by what law of reason or rule of natural justice it was held that the State had the right to take its subjects, without their consent. for the purpose of making soldiers of them in time itself with army officers, army surgeons, munitions of war, &c., without the consent of the parties from whom it may choose to exact such service. That is, if the law of contract, as the measure and guardian of personal freedom, applies in the case of all other professions and pursuits under free Governments, why should it not apply to private soldiers as well as to officers and army contractors Is it just to abrogate this law with regard to a single class of persons in the community, while its observance towards all others is held to be the part of justice and the pledge of personal liberty Why should the relations of supply and demand. which regulate the price of every other service in the State, be subverted in the single case of pri vate soldiers? And do we not find in the con siderations suggested by these interrogatories sufficient explanation of the instinctive preference given by all free peoples to volunteering as a means of filling up their armies ?

If it be within the just prerogatives of Government to demand military service in the ranks from all its subjects of suitable age and strength, with out their consent or contract; and if it be the duty of all such subjects to render that service without regard to their individual interests or wishes, then it logically follows, as was indeed contended by Mr. McDougall, in the course of the debate to which we refer, that "the true rule for asserting the right on the part of the Government and enforcing the duty as against the citizen is to place them upon the exact same footing." In this view he held the following language in support of his amendment, which proposed that "from and after ten days from the passage of this act substitutes shall not be allowed in the place of persons subject to draft and regularly drafted in the service of the United States:"

" For this reason I am opposed to the commutation: for this reason I am opposed to substitutes; for this reason I am opposed to bounties. Let all men be equal before the law. That is a popular term, and has received the sanction of men eminent in the use of language and in their humanitarian philosophy. Let all men be equal before the law; and as they are all equal before the law, let them all obey the law; let them all, in obedience to law, main-tain the Government which enacts and maintains the law. tain the Government which enacts and maintains the law. This whole system is wrong from its beginning. I have always been opposed to it, and I enter my opposition now to this movement. I stand by the bill extinguishing the commutation clause, with this difference, that I would say, and I shall move, that there shall be no substitutes hereafter. Let him who is bound to service and is drafted for service serve, without distinction of men, and let them all be equal before the law."

This is undoubtedly nothing more than a logical application of the maxim which teaches that all men owe military service to their lawful Government in such a sense that the Government may lawfully emancipate itself from the duty of making that service dependent on their voluntary consent and contract

But that this maxim has its limitations was, we think, clearly shown by Mr. WILSON, when, in opposition to the amendment, he spoke as follows:

"We have got the business interests of the country to take care of as well as well as the military interests. We must get the money to carry on the war, and it is just as neces o have money to carry on this war as to have the We have got to watch and nurse and take care of

stitute if one offers,' would be deemed oppressive, would create a great deal of ill will toward the Government, and weaken our cause in the country. There is no necessity on earth for such action."

The amendment of Mr. McDougall received but six votes in its favor, and yet, as we have said, it was nothing but the logical and symmetrical application of the doctrine which lies at the basis of all conscription laws-the doctrine that the Government has a right to exact military service in contempt of the law of contract, securing the enjoyment of personal freedom, and of the law of demand and supply, regulating the price of such service. And to this extent the Senate declared itself against the justice of any such views with regard to the prerogatives of Government and the duty of the subject, so difficult is it in a community like ours to domesticate a theory which belongs properly only to Governments in which the Government is every thing and the individual subject nothing.

During the course of the discussion Mr. Wilson said that "fully one-third at least of Gen. Grant's army, that has made marches and fought battles unparalleled in this century any where, has gone iato the service during the last eight months" by voluntary enlistment. Some of them are men who received the bounty of \$300 or \$400 from the General Government, \$525 from States, and more from the towns, making in some cases \$800 or \$900. men per week. The reason why so few enlist was That is, this is the rate of remuncration which, combined with their monthly stipend, was found ceed on the principle that this rule of political power of a Government, and are not directed to the economy is to be disregarded in the interest of ascertainment of the citizen's duty under conscripthe Government, and at the expense of the private tion laws after they may have been enacted. Unof all such statutes, and hence the reluctance with which they are enacted by the Legislatures of all Governments founded on the principles of liberty and justice.

The proceedings of our Congress, in the recoil they perpetually betray from the maxims of compulsory military service, are a tribute to this natural and universal sentiment. It is felt that the "laborer is worthy of his hire" in the army as well as out of the army.

GEN. GRANT'S ARMY-ITS FULL AND EFFI-CIENT CONDITION.

The report which the PRESIDENT makes of the Army of the Potomac, on his return from his visit to Gen. Grant's headquarters, is very satisfactory, and re-assuring for all who may have felt uneasy on that score, after the exhaustive battles which he has been fighting, almost without intermission, during the last forty days-almost indeed from the day he crossed the Rapid-Ann-and proves that the War Department has, as the Secretary stated two or three weeks ago, exerted itself most commendably in forwarding reinforcements to Gen. Grant, which, it is said, have amounted to not less than sixty thousand men. The information, however, to which we allude, as having been brought by the President from the army, is found of war, unless it equally has the right to provide in the Republican of Friday evening, on announcing the President's return to Washington, and, coming from that paper, may be deemed authentic. It is as follows:

FROM THE FRONT.-We learn a fact with regard to the situation which must be gratifying to every loyal citizen to knew. It is, that Gen. Grant, in all his interviews with the President, while the latter was at the front. never complained that he did not have men and supplies mough. He never hinted that he wanted another man or in a perfect condition, and in excellent health and spirits.

THE FEDERAL PRINCIPLE IN BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

It seems that the evils which are found to attend, or at least the misfortunes which are seen to have overtaken the practical working of the "federative Gilbert presided. principle" in the United States, are not enough to deter others from the imitation of our example. The recent crisis in Canada politics, which involved of Parliament and a new election, has brought out a plan of reorganization founded on this basis. The plan proposes the confederation of all the previnces of British North America, embracing Canada, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and the Northwestern Territory, into one system. The project, it is said, was the result of a conference between leaders of the Government and the opposition parties. The Toronto Globe thus defines the new scheme :

"According to the policy adopted, the remedy for existing constitutional difficulties is to be found in the adoption of the federal principle. A measure supplying that principle to the Canadas is to be introduced at the next session Parliament, with provisions for the admission of the ower Provinces and of the Northwest Territory into the Federation whenever that becomes practicable upon equitable terms. The application of the federal principle to the Canadas involves a legislature and a government for the whole Province, having charge of matters common to he whole; and the division of the Province into two or more sections, with legislatures and governments having charge of matters of a local character. In the upper branch of the federal legislature, the equality of representation is to be preserved, while in the lower branch representation by population is to prevail. Efforts are to be made to induce the Lower Provinces to long the Confederal the Lower Provinces to join the Confederation, but the success of the scheme, as far as Capada is concerned, is not to be contingent upon their assent. In any event, Parliament will, at its next secsion, be asked to carry out the principle as regards this province, while those who are beyond the control of the Canadian Parliament will be taken in whenever they are willing to come.

EVERY THING ON THIS ISSUE

The Richmond Examiner of the 10th instant, speaking of the military concentration around Richmond, says: This is the state of the case. Things are so arranged that utter ruin or complete victory will be the issue of the struggle begun in the neighborhood of Richmond. There a no retreat for either." It urges the rebels to use every exertion to secure victory as the salvation of the Souther cause, but seems to rely more upon the losses of the Union army, which it places at 60,000 before Spottsylvanis slone, than upon any inherent strength of the rebels. Our Government seems awake to the full importance of the present crisis, and will undoubtedly keep Grant's army up to its full strength.—Ledger.

DEATH OF MISS PICKENS A HOAX.

A short time since an account of a heartrending scene at a wedding in Charleston was going the rounds of the press. It was asserted that a daughter of Governor Pickens was killed by a shell from the blockade fleet at the marriage altar. It turns out that the whole story was a

the sgricultural, manufacturing, mechanical, and commercial interests of the country. We have got to look to the condition and interests of the whole country in passing these acts for raising money and men. Sir, after this nation has put at least one million eight hundred theusand men into the field during three years, an amount of men put into wer by no nation in Christendom during this gene ration, to go to the people and say to them, 'You shall be drafted into the military service; you shall not get a sub-

THE THEORY OF MILITARY CONSCRIPTION.

It is known to our readers that the modern system of military conscription, as a means of raising armics, dates from the French Revolution, and was invented by the authors of that great social convulsion for the purpose of promoting their anarchie and ambitious projects. It proceeded on the assumption that every man owed military service to the French Government from the fact of his birth in France, and from this premise the revolutionary doctrinaires jumped to the illogical conclusion that it was right and proper to sweep every able-bodied Frenchman, of suitable age, into the ranks of the French army, by the summary and solved that military service was a debt, and then questionable character, was in the habit of operating with provided a means by which the Government might contractors, and used Government property for his own payment of that debt.

We need not say that, regarded in the light o political morality and private right, the premise of Post to be untrue. Mr. Field is charged with having disthe French doctrinaires is not axiomatic and their | honorably received two hundred thousand dollars in the inference is illogical. Men are not made for Governments, but Governments for men, and there is no ethical or political reason that we can perceive why the duty of military service should be made that he did not receive two hundred thousand dollars, but to differ in its conditions from any other kind of service rendered to the Government. The reader which was one hundred dollars a share, but which he will of course understand that these observations relate to the fundamental grounds of the theory on which all conscription laws are based, and that in to be the price of soldiers according to the law of this view they are addressed to the inquiry supply and demand. Now, conscription laws pro- that may be raised respecting the legislative soldier, who shall be compelled to serve without wise or impolitic laws, until repealed or judicially contract, and at a price below the value of his ser- declared void, are as much entitled to be obeyed vices. This is the meaning and this is the effect by the subject and enforced by the Executive as laws of the most obvious propriety and rightful-

Upon the general relations of the question of military conscription we presume none will dispute the justice of the following observations of the New York Commercial Advertiser :

"It is supposed by many that a conscription withou any commutation will more justly equalize the burdens of the war. This view we hold to be an error. Men are no equally adapted to the m litary service, nor equally desir ous to enter it. "To some men a military life opens to them that path

of glory and position which satisfies their ambitions; men otherwise constituted do not care for any honors which the career of a soldier can offer them.

"It is desirable to have soldiers, and if men do not en-

ter the ranks of the army voluntarily at the present rate of remuneration and bounties, we must increase the remune ration and the bounties until they reach a point at which men will enter the ranks.

"The occupation of the soldier, like every other em-ployment, must be rewarded in accordance with the nature of the service rendered and the danger incurred by the person rendering it. Part of this remuneration consists in glory, the rest must be made up by money. We have a number of guapowder manufactories in and for military purposes it is as important to have work men in this occupation as to have men to shoulder the musket. Although the business of making guopowder is connected with a great deal of danger, we do not obtain connected with a great deal of danger, we do not obtain the employes by conscription. We bid high enough to find men who will volunteer to enter the works, and expose themselves for a certain consideration to a I the danger "The same rule holds true in regard to our hospital

service. Physicisns volunteer for the position; they are not dra'ted for it; and during the past winter the rate of mortality among physicians in some of our hospitals has surpassed that occasioned by the chances of war.

"Therefore, on every just principle of the division of employment, and even upon the ground of equal justice the system of volunteering, as a means of filling the ranks of the a my, is infinitely superior to any conscription. By the former method we get men who are adapted by physical organization and tastes for the life of a soldier. I adopting the latter course, we fill the army with men who are in every way unfitted for the life which they have been forced to adopt."

FREMONT MEETING IN NEW YORK.

A meeting for the purpose of ratifying the nomination of a single thing more than he now possessee. The army is the Cleveland Convention for President and Vice President of the United States was held at Cooper Institute, New York, on Monday evening, and was attended by a large and enthusisstic sudience. On the platform were Mr. Edward Gibert, Hon. John Cochrane, Dr. Orestes Brownson, of New Jersey, the Hon. M. C. Claiborne, of Missouri, Col Zagony, of Geo. Fremout's staff, Mr. Kirkland, Col. Freeman, and other distinguished gentlemen. Mr. Edward

A series of resolutions were adopted endorsing the action of the Cleveland Convention, protesting against arbi rary arrests and the suppression of the right of habeas corpus; declaring that slavery is abolished and the assent of the Governor General to a dissolution must never be revived; that the power of reconstruction of the Union is in the people and not in the Executive; and that the rebellion must be suppressed and the Union pre served.

The chairman then introduced Dr. Orestes O. Brown son, who commenced by denouncing the present Administration and decisring that he would rather vote for Vallan digham han for Liucoln, on the principle that of two evil-you should choose the least. He declared that no one wished or the re-election of Mr Lincoln except the shoddy con for the re-election of Mr Lincoln except the shoddy con-tractors. Mr. Lincoln, he sail, was not an anti-slavery man, but quite the contrary. He had done all he could to prevent emancipation, and his proclamation, given under political pressure, was so worded that no slave could avail himself of it. The speaker said he was for the salvation the Union, and he hoped that if they thought Gen. G. R. McClellan or any other individual could save the Union better than Fremont that they would elect him to fill th Presidential chair. Dr. Brownson was followed by the Hon. J. C. Claiborne, Hon. John Cochrane, and other eloquent speakers. Col. Zagony read a despatch describing the result of the late ratification meeting in St. Louis, which he declared was a success beyond all precedent.

[Journal of Commerce.

PAY OF ARMY OFFICERS.

At the risk of being thought to meddle in a matter tha does not concern us, we would ask if it is not proper and just for Congress, before adjourning, to provide a moderate increase of pay to all officers of the army in the field under the rank of Major Generals? The interests of the private soldier have been well cared for in the way of bounties and enlarged pay, and he is fed at the cost of the Government. No so with the general officer, whose personal expenses in the field and those of his family at home are nearly if not quite doubled, while his pay, never deemed extravagant, remains as it was. Does it not then seen incumbent upon Congress to manifest some appreciation of the services of men at a period when the ordinary avocations of life prove so remunerative? To increase recen ably the pay of officers will prove a trifling expenditure compared with that involved in the gratuities of the soldier. Is it just that these defenders of our country should hazard the'r lives, year after year, for the common good, and only receive a mere pittance compared with what is paid all over the country for civil services unattended

ATTEMPTED ESCAPE OF CONSCRIPTS. On Thursday morning the steamship Constitution, of New York, arrived here, bringing up eight men taken from a schooner off Lower Cedar Point, which had picked them up. They proved to be of a party of conscripts and deserters who were embarked on Thursday at Alexandria, on the steamer Delaware, for the Army of the Potomac, and while going down the river liteen of them jumped over-

with danger ? We think not, and we are confident if

Congress would increase the pay of the officers of the

army proportioned to their necessarily increased expenses

the country would approve the act.

board, and endeavored to make their escape by getting on the schooler. The remaining seven are supposed to have been drowned. AVOIDING MILITARY DUTY .- The President of one of the Loyal Leagues in New Jersey, liable to military duty and as such drafted under the law of Congress, fled from town soon after he was drafted. He is now supposed to

CHARGES OF CORRUPTION.

Mr THURLOW WEED publishes in the Albany Journal a long communication, reiterating certain charges of corrupt practices previously made against Mr. Greeley of the Tribute, Mr. Henderson and Dr. Alex. Wilder of the Evening Post, Ex-Mayor Opdyke, David Dudley Field, and other gentlemen of New York. The specific charge against Mr. Greeley is that he has used his position to ob tain appointments for friends, upon whose salaries he has received a per centage. Mr. Greel y solemnly denies the acquestion. The charge against Mr. Opdyke is to the effect that he has speculated upon the necessities of the Government, and has sold upon shares certain offices the bestowal of which he was able to central. Mr. Opdyke declares the charges to be unfounded in whole and in part, and avows a determination to appeal to the laws for redress. The charge against Mr Henderson is, that, as arbitrary process of conscription. They first re- Navy Agent, he had "outside business connexious" of a claim, from as many as should be drafted, the personal benefit. The charge against Dr. Wilder is, that, as Albany correspondent of the Evening Post, he employed the influence of that paper to "put money in his purse" and " favor the editors." These charges are said by the "distribution of Maripoea spoils," taking sdvantage of his position as Gen. Fremont's counsel and also of the neces sities of the latter, when his Mariposa estate was about to be sold, to exact that enormous fee. Mr. Field replies did receive two thousand shares of stock, the par value of could have bought for twenty-five dollars a share.

Newark Daily Advertiser.

FROM EUROPE.

The steamer City of London, which left Liverpool of the 15th ipstant and Queenstown on the 16th, has arrived at New York.

THE ALABAMA AT CHERROTIES

The rebel privateer Alabama arrived at Cherbourg, France, on the 11th of June, and was admitted to free pratique. She landed forty prisoners, the crews of two Federal merchantmen which she had captured and destroyed. The names of these vessels are not given. The Alabama requires extensive repairs, and she is to be permitted to make them in dock at Cherbourg.

NEW ORDERS CONCERNING CRUISERS. Fresh instructions from the British Government have been sent to the Governors of British colonies respecting the treatment of prizes captured by Federal or Confederate cruisers, if brought into British waters. The new rules are as follows:

" I. If any prize captured by a ship of war of either of the belligerent Powers shall be brought by the captors within her Mejesty's jurisdiction, notice shall be given by the Governor to the captors immediately to depart and remove such prize.
"2 A vessel which shall have been actually and bon.

fide converted into and used as a public vessel of war shall not be deemed to be a prize within the meaning of these " 3. If any prize shall be brought within her Majesty's jurisdiction through mere stress of weather, or other ex-treme and unavoidable necessity, the Governor may allow

for her removal such time as he may consider to be neces "4. If any prize shall not be removed at the time pre-

scribed to the captors by the Governor, the Governor may detain such prize until her Majesty's pleasure shall be

"5 If any prize shall have been captured by any violation of the territory or territorial waters of her Majesty, the Governor may detain such prize until her Majesty's pleas-

" Her Majesty's Government have not thought it neces sary to make any addition to the instructions already given with respect to cargoes, viz: That her Majesty's orders apply as much to prize cargoes of every kind which msy be brought by any armed ships or privateers of either beligerent into British waters, as to the captured vessels themselves. They do not, however, apply to any articles which may have formed part of any such cargoes if b ought within British jurisdiction, not by armed ships or priva-teers of either belligerent, but by other persons who may have acquired or may claim property in them by reason of any dealings with the captors.

"These rules are for the guidence of the executive authority, and are not intended to interfere in any way with the rocess of any court of justice."

THE DANISH QUESTION.

The Danish Conference in London makes no headway Lord Palmerston, in reply to a question in the House of Commons, said he had no reason to believe that the decision which had been come to by the Conference for properiod to which the armistice had been extended it would be open for the Conference to prolong the armistice or not, according to then existing circumstances.

MILITARY INTERFERENCE WITH ELECTIONS.

The following correspondence appears in a late numb: of the Memphis Argus: MEMPHIS, (TENN.) JUNE 12, 1864.

Mej. Gen. C. C. Washburna.

SiR: It is circulated upon the streets, to my prejudice. a candicate for mayor, by asp rants and their friends for the same office, that, in the event I should be re-elected, the military would take charge of the municipal depart ment of Memphis. Tais by some is believed, and to my great injury. To satisfy my friends I would be please to know it any such intention is entertained by you

Most respectfully, HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST TENNESSEE,

MEMPHIS, (TENN.) JUNE 18, 1864. John Park, Esq. Mayor of Memphis.

Sir: Your letter of this date is at this moment received, in which you inquire if it is the "intention of the

silitary author ties to take charge of the municipal de artment of Memphis in case you are re-elected Mayor. I answer, unhesitatingly, that such is the "intention The disloyal character of the present city government, as well as its after inefficiency in the management of city affairs, compel me to this declaration. I hope that the citizens of Memphis, by electing a ticket friendly to the Government of the United States, will relieve me from the duty of interfering; but of this I am determined, that, while I command here, there shall be no bostile munic pal government within my jurisdiction.

I find that, on the 2d day of July, 1861, you delivered your mangural message as Mayor of Memphis. I recall

your inaugural message as Mayor of Memphis. I recan the following extract from it viz:

"For years a farstical party has been growing in the North—a party that declars for itself a higher than the Constitution, or even the Word of God combining in its elements republicanism, abolitionism, free-loveism, at eism, with every other abominable ism that strikes at the organization of society or the existence of free constitutional government.

"This fanatical party, as you know, succeeded, at the last Presidential election, in placing in the chair of Washington Mr. Abe Lincoln, the man who promulgated the irrepressible Mr. Abe Lincoln, the man who promu gated the irrepressible conflict destrice—a destrice so utterly at war with all the best interests of the South that when its au hor was placed in power, upon a platform fully endorsing his destrine, and with evident determination upon his part to carry out his doctring to the ull extert, there was no alternative left for the South out to withdraw from a Union that, instead or affording peace out to withdraw from a Union that, instead of affording peace and protection, as was originally contemplated was to be used as a means of destroying all that was valuable to the South.

"Had the Administration at Washington fully comprehended the state of the country and its duties, war with all its horrors might have been avoided. But the head of that Administration had avowed his purpose of planting his foot firmly, and, on assuming the reits of his Government, seemed to be controlled alone by his 'higher law' doctrine. Diaregarding all constitutional restraints, he set himself up as military dictator, whose arbitrary rule was more to be feared tran that of any of the monarchs of Europe. Against the Administration of this tyrant the routh rebell d. They did right The

Southern people would have been unworthy the name of freemen had they submitted to Lincoln's Administration after his purposes were fully developed." While I have understood that you have taken the oath of ellegiance, it is believed that, notwithstanding, you have never repented of any of your sins against the Government of the United States son for the interposition of the military authorities, but the disloyal and inefficient character of the government of which you are the head turnishes reasons that are over-

Respectfully yours,
C. C. WASHBURNE, Major General Commanding.

EARTHQUAKES -On May 19th, at four o'clock A. M. very heavy shock of earthquake was felt at Jacmel layti. It destroyed a great number of houses. On the 21st another shock was felt, which also destroyed a number of houses, among them the British Consul's dwelling, and he was covered up in the ruins, but was rescued. On the 1st instant another slight shock was experienced, but no damage was done

A second attempt was made on Thursday to launch the Monitor Puritan, but failed. New ways will have to be made, and it will be some two weeks ere another attempt to launch can be made.

A cavalry officer who participated in the recent expedition of Gen. Sturgis, which met with such a disastrous termination near Guntown, Mississippi, contributes the subjoined detailed narrative of the affair to the Chicago Tribune :

Gen. Sturgis was ordered to strike the line of the M bile and Onio railroad at a point south of Corinth, destroy the same, and engage any forces of the enemy in that vithe same, and engage any forces of the enemy in that vicinity. The forces composing this expedition were 4,700 infantry, with sixteen pieces of artillery, in three brigades, under Col McMillan—3,350 white troops and 1,350 color, ed; Gen. Grieron of cavalry, first brigade, under Col Waring, probably 1,200 strong, with two rifled guns and two sections of mountain bowitzers, (attached to 4th Missouri gavalry;) second brigade, under Col Winstow, numbering 1,500 men, with two rifled guns; 7th Missouri cavalry and two rifled guns; 7th Wisconsin light artillery; about two hundred wagons, loaded with supplies and amabout two hundred wagons, loaded with supplies and am-munition, composed the train.

The morning of the 10th of June found this little army

complete in organization, in good spirits, and undoubted efficiency, encamped together at Stubba's plantation, on

the Ripley road.

At half-past five o'clock A. M. Col. Waring's brigade took the advance on the Fulton's road, Winslow's brigade following, the infantry and trains marching behind. Two miles beyond Stubbe's the army crossed a swamp, known as the Hatchie river, covered with water and abounding n small creeks meandering the road in great diversity. The artillery and train was moved into the swa p with out any attempt being made by pioneering to render the occasing better, and before all the train had made the pas ange the clearing through which the road run was so bidly cut up as to render a recrossing impossible. Two hours work would have sufficed to construct a road upon which the artiflery and train could have been recrossed with

At 10 o'clock A. M., twenty-three miles from Ripley, about eighteen miles from Tupelo, and six miles from Saltillo, at the cross roads at Brice's plantation, half a mile east of a creek, passable only by a bridge, and while the train was but in part across the Hatchie swamp, the advance encountered the enemy, which it immediately en

gaged.

At 12 o'clock the second brigade of cavalry moved into position, half a mile in advance of the point of intersection of the Fulton and Pontotoc road, defending this position. he engagement had now assumed a general character the enemy apparently in great force, pressing with vigor upon the whole line, while artillery was holly engaged.

At 2 clock P. M. the enemy had succeeded in forcing

At 2 o'clock P. M. the enemy had succee our cavalry back a quarter of a mile from its first position but the retirement was made in good or ier, and the new line was steadily held. At this period the infantry was exhausted by a march of five miles during the heat of the rived and relieved the cavalry, which was ordered by Gen. Sturg's to fall back across the creek.

The infantry went into the fight with bravery and deter-

mination, but exhausted by their forced march, and out numbered and outflanked by their fresher foe. Fresh batteries were placed in position, and added their thunders to the horrid tumult. The dead and wounded had been carried to the rear for several hours. Now the ghastly throng grew more numerous as the tide of battle surged with greater fierceness along the line. Stragglers, many of hem wounded, came in numbers from our right, and, from the approaching sounds and rebelcheers, it seemed certain that the rebels had turned that flack

Gen. Sturgis had arrived upon the field at 1 30 o'clock P. M., yet at the moment of which I write numbers of our teams were occupying the bridge of the deep creek toward the enemy, and being parked in the field upon its eastern bank. At 3 o'clock P. M. the rebels made a fierce attack along the whole line, outflanking our troops to the right and left, and driving them back in disorder.

The 4th Iowa cavalry, in the rear of the 2d cavalry bri gade, had not yet succeeded in crossing their horses over the crowded bridge, and, perceiving the retreat of the in fantry, they were dismounted and formed upon the creat of the hill upon the eastern bank of the creek. Here, with heir carbines, under a deadly fire of musketry and artil e ry, they fought for thirty minutes, covering the retirement of their horses, and saving the fragments of two in autry regiments threatened with complete annihilation or cap-

ure by the victorious rebels.

At 4 o'clock P. M. that portion of the army not killed. n disorder, the first brigade of cavalry taking the advance f the retresting column. The negro brigade formed first west of the creek and gave the rebels a check, after which t fell in with the receding masses.

Gen. Sturkis now ordered the 2d cavalry brigade to en

deavor to get shead of the column and stop the retreat, and it accordingly proceeded to Stubbe's, two miles wes the Hatchie and ten miles from the cross roads, formed ine in front and to both flanks, effectually stopping all ex cept the first brigade, which had gone on In the mean time a remnant of an infactry brigade had made a stand four or five miles west of the creek, effectually stopping

the rebel pursuit
About 9 o'clock P. M. the Hatchie swamp was completely choked with artillery, caissons, wagons, ambulance, and dead animals, the debris of a broken army, and Geo Sturgis, two miles ahead at Stubbs', said that he did not expect to save any artillery, wagons or supplies, and or dered all to move forward except the second cavalry brigade, directing Col Winslow to halt at Stubbe' until althe army had moved past, and then take the rear of the column as far as Ripley, saying that at that point or just

At 24 o'clock A. M. of the 11th justant, Col. Winslow. supposing the army all post, moved his brigade slowly in he direction of Ripley; but hearing that a portion of the brigade which projected the rear the previous night was yes behind, the cavalry was halted at a creek east of Ripley, and waited for the infantry to come up and pass Here, as the infantry moved past, the enemy made a vigor one attack upon the rear guard, which was gallantly met

by the Third and Fourth lows cavalry.
The column then moved slowly toward Ripley, at which place it was fiercely attacked by the enemy in the rear, while the reads north and south of the town were occupied in force. Here sgain the Third and Fourth Iowa cavalry deployed, manoeuvring by squadrons and battalions, meet ing the foe with volley for voiley, and sending the bulletack into their ranks with a fierceness and rapidity more nan equal to their own.

colored brigade was again pushed into action but after firing a few volleys without chicking the rebel ad-

vance, it retrea ed down the Salem road.

The column was then moved out of Ripley, and the 3d and 4th Iowa egain took the rear, fighting severely for several hours. I wenty miles from Colliersville, the second brigade being out of ammusition, was relieved by the Se cond New Jersey, and at nine o'clock A. M. of the 12th instant, having marched seventy five miles in fifty two hours—men without rest and horses without forage—the remnant of the army arrived at Colliersville. The first cavalry brigade had saved its howitzers. The second had saved all its artillery, ambulances, and wounded, and ac companying the cavalry were a few infantry mounted on a uses, horses, &c., and a few who had marched from the

Here Gen. Sturgis said we would rest until the next morning, and collect stragglers, and, as a reinforcement of grand the twilight hour. The rebeis hold their strongly two thousand fresh infa try met us there, we were not attacked. I do not see why it was not done, but at dark the tired troops were marched seventeen miles to White Station, where they arrived at daylight the next morning. Here Gen Sturgis ordered a detail of his exhausted cavalry to proceed back to C lliersville and cover some stragglers

Our less in this battle was probably one thousand killed and wounded, most of the wounded (alling into the enemy's hands, sixteen pieces of smillery, two hundred wagons, and fifteen hundred prisoners. After the shandonment of the trains most of the infantry was out of ammunition, and the cavalry had but a few rounds left with no source of sup ply. All of the troops under my personal observation fough with valor and determination worthy of more glorious re suits, and after the entire army was defeated and running back, the men were cool and collected, marching without

organization to be sure, but without panic.

A little judgment upon the part of the commander of our force would, in the opinion of all military men present at the retreat, have saved our artillery and trains, and I am satisfied that with a supply of ammunition the second bri-gade of cavalry, which stood so stauchly when all else was entire force could, I think have been made within four miles of the battle field, enabling us to bring off the greater portion of our artillery and train, and saving from capture undreds of our exhausted men.

THE DAHLGREN ORDERS. Our readers will remember that we some time since

stated the fact that we had received from London a photographic copy of the "orders" alleged to have been found on the person of Col. Dahlgren, for the destruction of Richmond and the massacre of Jefferson Davis and his Cabinet. This copy has been submitted by us to the nearest friends and relatives of the gallant young soldier, to blacken whose memory it has been published to the world under the suspices of the Confederate authorities; and we are glad, without being surprised, to learn from them that the" orders" are not in the handwriting of Col. Dahlgren. that the signature of those orders is not his signature, and that the whole document, as it appears in the "authorized" London reproduction, is a bold and barefaced forgery, lacking even the semblance of authenticity in the eyes of those who are familiar with the chirography, to eay nothing of the character of Col. Ulric Dat Igren. [N. Y. Commercial Adnertiser.

Six persons bave within a few months past committee suicide in consequence of their losses at the gaming tables | Gen. Grant, which is certainly very inopportune.

DETAILS OF THE DEFEAT OF GEN. STURGIS. OFFICIAL NEWS FROM GEN. HUNTER.

SUCCESS OF HIS EXPEDITION

The Secretary of War has made public the following despatch from Geo Hunter, received at the War Department yesterdsy afternoon:

" HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT W VIRGINIA.

Loup Creek, near Gauley, June 28, 1864 "I have the honor to report that our expedition has een extremely successful, is floting great injury upon the enemy and victorious in every engagement.

"Running short of ammunition, and finding it impossible o collect supplies while in the presence of an enemy believed to be superior to our force in numbers and constantly receiving reinforcements from Richmond and other points, I deemed it best to withdraw, and have succeeded n doing to, without serious loss, to this point, where we have met abundant supplies of food and forage.

"A detailed report of our operations will be forwarded mmediately. The command is in excellent heart and health, and ready after a few days' rest for service in any direction."

THE WAR IN GEORGIA.

UNSUCCESSFUL ATTACK BY THE ENEMY

A despatch from Gen. Sherman's headquarters, dated Tuesday evening, the 21st instant, communicates the ollowing intelligence:

" It has rained almost incessantly, in spite of which our ines have been pressed forward steadily, and an important position gained by Gen. Howard. The enemy made a desperate attempt to retake the position last night, making even distinct assaults on Gen. Whittaker's brigade, of Gen. Stanley's division, and losing not less than seven or eight hundred men. Two hundred killed were left on Whittaker's front. The assault was followed by a heavy fire of artillery, under which the position was fortified and s now safe. Our cavalry is across Noonday creek on our left, and one brigade of the Twenty-third Corps is across Moses creek on the right; but the rebel left is behind a swamp, and the rains prevent any advance. The fighting s quite severe at all points. The enemy are resisting stubbornly, and attempting the offensive whenever they

UNSUCCESSFUL ATTACK ON THE ENEMY'S WORKS AT KENESAW-HEAVY LOSS.

A despatch from Gen. Sherman, received on Tuesday the War Department, reports that on Monday, the 27th nstaut, an unsuccessful attack was made by our forces on the enemy's positions, which resulted in a loss to us of between two and three thousand. The following particulars are given :

"Pursuant to my orders of the 24th, a diversion was nade on each flack of the enemy, especially down the Sand-town road. At 8 A M. McPherson attacked at the southwest end of Kenesaw, and Thomas at a point about a mile further south at the same time. The skirmishers and artillery along the whole line kept up a sharp fire. Neither attack succeeded, though both columns reached the enemy's works, which are very strong. McPherson reports his loss about five hundred, and Thomas about two thousand. The loss is particularly heavy in General and field officers Gen. Harker is reported mortally wounded; also, Col. Dan. McCook, commanding a brigade; Col. Rice, 57th Ohio, very seriously. Cols. Baruball, 40th Illinois, and Augustine, 55th Illinois, are killed. McPherson took a hundred prisoners, and Thomas about as many, but I do not suppose we inflicted heavy loss on the enemy, as he kept close behind his parapets.'

IMPORTANT FROM NORTH CAROLINA.

FORTRESS MONROF, JUNE 24.-News from the expedition under the command of Gen. I. N. Palmer, which left Newbern some days since, has been received. The com-mand consisted of infactry, cavalry, and artitlery, and was sent out to penetrate into the interior of North Carolina, and to destroy the Wilmington and Weldon railroad, as well as other Government property. The most unlooked for success attended their efforts. The command went as far as Kingston. [probably this should be Goldsbor stroyed the railroad and an immense quantity of Governnent stores, captured a large number or prisoners, and inected great damage upon the rebel cause, and returned in They found the whole co-opletely stripped or white male inhabitante, there being only a small guard left to proteet the railcoal, who were easily cip und The full par-ticulars have not yet been received —H raid

LATER FROM GEN. SHERMAN.

Intelligence from Gen. Sterman down to Tuesday afteroon represents that the return of missing men had, up to that time, reduced his losses in the action of Monday to two thousand men, instead of twenty-five hundred, as he reported on the day of the fight. He was helding all the ground and positions he had gained in the course of the action. Though not successful in carrying the works he assaulted, the positions and ground he gained and holds are of importance to the future progress of his operations.

RAIDS IN THE REAR OF SHERMAN'S ARMY.

On Saturday morning last the rebel Gen. Wharton, with twenty-five hundred men, made a raid on Sherman's rear, and interrupted, for the time, his communications Five freight trains loaded with army supplies were cap tured between Ringgold and Dalten, and destroyed. The rebel cavalry are very active, and occasionally meet with success. Their chief sim appears to be to raid on the communications of our army. About a week ago Capt. Gover made a dash at the railroad five miles from Re and succeeded in capturing and destroying two trains

Sherman feels secure in his position, and his lines are stearily advancing Fighting occurs every day. The boom of cannon and the rattle of musketry are heard in the early dawn, and the thundering cohoes and bright flashes make fortified position on the Chattaboochie river. Sherman will take Atlanta by a dextrously executed flank move-

We learn from a gentleman just arrived from the front. whose connection with the army affords every facility to learn of its movements, the above facts. He was in Atlanta one week ago, and states that the citizens of that prace feel its cure, and are moving further south. The Governor of Georgia is becoming sensitive in regard to the invasion of the State. He is out with a proclamation in the Atlanta papers, warning the Confederate authorities, and Joe Johnston in particular, not to attempt to destroy Atlanta or the railroads extending from the city. He says that they are the property of the State, and he will use every means in his power to preserve them for the State. If necessary, he will call out the militia, and recall the Georgia troops in the Coufederate service, to aid him in enforcing his proclamation. This sounds much like "buacombe," and we presume it will be so regarded by the Confederate authorities. Our informant says that if Johnston is driven from the

Chattahoochie he will not attempt to make a stand this side of Atlanta, or even at the city. Cedar Bluff, nine miles below the town, has been strongly fortified, and is considered impregnable. Johnston will at once retreat to this position if forced from his present stand, and will there offer tattle. The Bluff can never be taken by assault. It will require a long and tedious siege to effect its downfail.

RUNNING THE BLOCKADE.

The Bermuda Royal Gazette, a file of which to the 14th instant has been received, records the recent arrival at that place of various steamers, with valuable cargoes, from Wilmington, North Carolina.

On the 4th, steamer Lynx, Capt. Reid, arrived from Wil-

mington, (N. C.) with 621 bales cotton.

On the 7th, the steamer Index, Capt. Marshall, arrived with 803 bales cotton and 203 boxes tobacco.

On the 8th, steamer Atalants. Capt. Howe, arrived from same port, with 536 bales cotton, 155 half tierces and 527 On the 9.b, steamer Celestia, Capt. Usina, arrived from same port, with 594 bales cotton and a quantity of fur-

On the 11th, steamer City of Petersburg arrived from aime port, with 810 bales cotton and a quantity of tobac THE ADVANCE IN GOLD -Various opinions are enter

tained as to the causes of the sudden advance in gold, which is reported to have touched 230, though the specie brokers only pay 210 for small sums which are offered. Some attribute the advance to President Lincoln's visit to